

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 02226 011138Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 PC-01 AID-05 /077 W

-----011201Z 020886 /43

R 011001Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC8446

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 2226

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, PINT, IN, NP

SUBJ: NEPALESE SPOKESMAN DENIES INDIAN RESS CHARGES

REF: NEW DELHI 7567

1. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOME AND PANCHAYAT MINISTRY MAY 31 ATTACKED WHAT HE TERMED AS "FALSE,IMAGINARY AND MALICIOUS" PRESS REPORTS WHICH CONTINUED TO APPEAR IN INDIA REGARDING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN NEPAL. THE OFFICIAL NOTED PRESS REPORTS THAT "THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL WORKERS" WERE BEING DETAINED IN NEPAL. HE STATED THAT THE HOME MINISTRY HAS TIME AND AGAIN DENIED REPORTS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PUBLISHED ACCURATE FIGURES OF PERSONS BEING HELD UNDER THE PUBLIC SECURITY ACT. AS OF MAY 31, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, 41 PERSONS ARE BEING HELD UNDER THE ACT.

2. IN REPLYING TO A QUESTION ON AN INCIDENT IN 1975 IN WHICH FOUR PRISONERS WERE SHOT BY POLICE "WHILE ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE" THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE THE INCIDENT PUBLIC IMMEDIATELY AND HAD LAUNCHED AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE SHOOTING. THAT INVESTIGATION HAD SHOWN THAT THE POLICE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO FIRE IN SELF-DEFENSE.

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3. COMMENT: THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY WILL CERTAINLY SERVE THE GOVERNMENT'S CAMPAIGN TO TRY TO KEEP THE INDIAN PRESS IN LINE, A CAMPAIGN WHICH CLEARLY HAS THE BACKING OF THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN KATHMANDU. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT FIGURES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS CURRENTLY JAILED IN NEPAL WE ACCEPT THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT THAT 41 ARE BEING DETAINED UNDER THE PUBLIC SECURITY ACT. THAT, HOWEVER, EXCLUDES

OTHERS--PERHAPS AS MANY AS 150--BEING HELD ON OTHER CHARGES,
INCLUDING THE TREASON ACT.
EAVES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS RELEASES, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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